

## August 17, 2009 - Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority's Phase I Dedication

JEFFERSON, PA -- Congressman John P. Murtha (PA-12), USDA Rural Development State Director Tom Williams, Colonel Michael Crall of the US Army Corps of Engineers and Gary Mylan of the Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority today participated in a dedication of Phase I of the Authority's sewer project and announced that \$1.55 million has been secured for Phase II.

The \$2.27 million Phase I project began in August 2008 and extended the existing sewer collection system to the Sandy Plains area of Greene County. The Authority's entire system serves over 1,400 users.

"We have had tremendous success at helping our rural communities afford essential water and sewer upgrades by leveraging the financial resources of both the USDA and the South Central Pennsylvania Environmental Infrastructure program," commented Murtha. "These upgrades not only provide vital services, but they help to clean-up our environment and are key to attracting future residents and economic growth."

"I'm honored to join with local officials, the USDA, and the US Army Corps in dedicating Phase I of the Lower Ten Mile project, and I'm very pleased to announce that \$1.55 million in federal stimulus funds will be provided for Phase II," added Murtha.

"Rural Development's waste disposal loan to the Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority for the Phase I extension project will help improve the environment and provide a better quality of life for residents of the area," said Tom Williams, Pennsylvania State Director.

"Great projects such as this come

about when local, state and federal partners work together to help improve people's lives. The South Central Pennsylvania Environmental Infrastructure Program provides a vehicle for the Corps to assist local communities with the design and construction of sewer and water infrastructure projects. This Lower Ten Mile project will not only benefit this community, it will contribute to the national goal of improving environmental quality," said Colonel Crall.

"We're also pleased to announce our partnership with the Authority on the second phase of the sewer system improvement project. Phase II will receive \$1.55 million in Recovery Act funds which will allow us to quickly bring additional sewer system improvements to this community," added Crall.

The funding to complete Phase I was provided by: \$1,580,000 loan from USDA Rural Development; \$450,000 from the US Army Corps of Engineers (through a Murtha earmark); \$200,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission; and \$43,000 from the Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority.

Phase II of the project includes the installation of 15,600 linear feet of sanitary sewers, 1,000 linear feet of force main, and two pump stations. Extension and expansion of the Mather and Williamstown waste water treatment plants are also planned since they are in violation of PA Department of Environmental Protection requirements because they are considered to be "hydraulically overloaded." The project extensions and upgrades will provide a safe and dependable sewage disposal system to current and future residents and businesses, while eliminating the health hazards due to malfunctioning on-lot systems.

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